

# DURANGO CENTER

## MOBILIZATION GUIDE

### Preface

The Mobilization Guides identify established standards and procedures that guide the operations of the Multi-Agency logistical fire dispatch/coordination activities. The mobilization guides are an extension of Agency manuals, handbooks, directives, and instructional memorandums relating to logistical support. The guides are intended to promote uniformity of logistical support communications, facilitate interagency dispatch coordination and ensure that the most timely and cost effective support services are provided. They are designed to accommodate amendments and will be recognized as currently applicable until amended.

The Durango Area Interagency Mobilization Guide (DMG) identifies local standards and procedures. The DMG is a supplement to the Rocky Mountain Area Mobilization Guide (RMG), which in turn is a supplement to the National Mobilization Guide (NMG). The NMG and RMG table of contents are included at the end of the DMG as reference.

Please review each chapter of the Mobilization Guide carefully and submit any recommendations, changes and updates to the guides to Durango Interagency Dispatch Center. Each unit within the Durango Dispatch Center area of influence should submit updates to all chapters, as applicable. Chapter updates and information are due prior to the **last FRIDAY in MARCH**, annually. It is every unit's responsibility to ensure the information submitted is correct and final before it is submitted to DRC for publishing.

#### **Mobilization Guide chapter contents**

Chapter 10 is Policy. Changes require Agency Administrators (or delegated) approval

Chapter 20 – Procedures. DRCG members are responsible to approve

Chapter 30 – Organization. DRCG members are responsible to approve

Chapter 40 – Cooperation. DRCG members are responsible to approve

Chapters 50 through 80 are catalog sections. 50 - Directory; 60 – Personnel; 70 - Equipment; 80 – Aircraft

Chapter 90 has been designated as an Emergency/ Accident Procedures chapter and should be created at each Unit level according to your area/agency policies and procedures. If you have any questions or comments, please contact the Durango Interagency Dispatch Center.

Thank you for all of your input and efforts.

RMA and NATIONAL MOBILIZATION GUIDE can be found through the  
RMACC website at <http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/> (Select Publications)  
DRC website is [http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch\\_centers/r2drc](http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2drc)  
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2012  
DURANGO  
MOBILIZATION GUIDE

Durango Interagency Coordinating Group

SIGNATURE PAGE

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## MISSION

The principle mission of the Durango Interagency Dispatch Center (DRC) is to provide support to individuals and unit by the safe, cost effective and timely response of resources for wildland fire activities within Southwest Colorado. The center's coordination efforts take place in cooperation with the Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center (RMACC) and the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC).

Dispatch and coordination centers receive their guidance from agency boards and Multi-Agency Coordination Group (MAC) groups.

This mission shall be accomplished through extensive planning, situation analysis, needs projection and activation of emergency resources through interagency cooperation. The Durango Interagency Dispatch Center (DRC) incorporates the federal, state and county units within southwest Colorado.

The cooperating protection agencies include:

- Bureau of Indian Affairs (Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Agencies)
- Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service (San Juan Public Lands)
- National Park Service (Mesa Verde National Park)
- Colorado State Forest Service
- Local Agency Cooperators within San Juan, La Plata, Hinsdale, Montezuma, and Archuleta Counties.

## TOTAL MOBILITY

Total mobility is defined as the positioning and utilization of resources to meet existing and anticipated incidents, preparedness, severity, and wildland and prescribed fire needs within the Durango Dispatch Center areas, regardless of geographic location or agency affiliation.

## PRIORITIES

When competition exists for resources, the Durango Dispatch Center Manager. Will establish priorities during preparedness levels I-IV with continuous input and coordination with local unit FMO's. The Multi-Agency Coordination Group (MAC) or DRCG establishes priorities during preparedness level V. Priorities shall be established through use of National Standards.

When competition occurs between adjacent dispatch centers in Southwestern Colorado, Eastern Utah or Northern New Mexico for national tactical aircraft resources, the Rocky Mountain Coordination Center (RMC), or the Rocky Mountain Area MAC Group will coordinate with appropriate Geographical Coordination Center (EBC or SWC), or area MAC Groups to establish priorities for incidents and the assignment of critical resources.

Whenever requested, a priority list shall be submitted to RMC by the Dispatch Center sub-geographic MAC or the Center Manager.

**A.** When requested, dispatch centers will establish priorities for their incidents and wildland fires and report them to RMACC. Areas will include consideration for initial attack in their evaluation.

**B.** The standard criteria to be used in establishing priorities and drawdown levels are:

1. Maintaining initial action capability
2. Life safety / threats to life
3. Threats to property
  - a. Community infrastructure
  - b. Historically significant cultural resources
  - c. Principal residence
  - d. Non-principal residence
  - e. Out-buildings
  - f. Forest / range improvements

- 1 4. Threats to natural resources
- 2 5. High value (\$) resources
- 3 6. Threatened and endangered species habitat
- 4 a. Critical habitat
- 5 b. Key habitat
- 6 7. Sensitive species habitat
- 7 8. Critical winter range
- 8 9. Other
- 9 a. Limiting costs without compromising safety
- 10 b. Meeting agency suppression objectives
- 11 c. Support to National Response Framework (NRF)

#### 12 13 LOCAL AND GEOGRAPHIC AREA DRAWDOWN, LEVELS, 14 AND NATIONAL READY RESERVE

15  
16 Drawdown is the predetermined quantity and type of suppression resources that are required to  
17 maintain viable initial attack (IA) capability at either the local or the geographic area. Drawdown  
18 resources are considered unavailable outside the local or Geographic Area for which they have  
19 been identified. Drawdown is intended to ensure adequate fire suppression capability for local  
20 and/or Geographic Area managers, and enable sound planning and preparedness at all  
21 management levels.

22  
23 Although drawdown resources are considered unavailable outside the local or geographic area for  
24 which they have been identified.

25  
26 Local drawdown is established by the local unit and/or the local MAC group and implemented by  
27 the local dispatch office. The local dispatch office will notify the Geographic Area Coordination  
28 Center (GACC) of local drawdown decisions and actions.

29  
30 Geographic area drawdown is established by the Geographic Area Multi-Agency Coordination  
31 Group (GMAC) and implemented by the Geographic Area Coordination Center. The GACC will  
32 notify the local dispatch offices and the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) of  
33 Geographic Area drawdown decision and actions.

34  
35 National Ready Reserve is a means by which the National Multi-Agency Coordination Group  
36 (NMAC) identifies and readies specific categories, types and numbers of fire suppression  
37 resources in order to maintain overall national readiness during periods of actual or predicted  
38 national suppression resource scarcity.

39  
40 National Ready Reserve implementation responsibilities are as follows:

- 41 A. NMAC establishes National Ready Reserve requirements by resource category, type  
42 and quantity.
  - 43 B. NICC implements NMAC intent by directing individual GACCs to place specific  
44 categories, types, and quantity of resources on National Ready Reserve.
  - 45 C. GACCs direct local dispatch centers and/or assigned IMTs to specifically identify  
46 resources to be placed on National Ready Reserve. Resources must have at least 7  
47 days left in 14 day rotation (extensions will not be factored in this calculation).
  - 48 D. GACCs provide NICC specific names of National Ready Reserve resources.
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E. NICC mobilizes National Ready Reserve resources through established ordering channels as necessary. When ordered, National Ready Reserve resources must be en route to the new assignment within specific timeframes.

NMAC will adjust ready reserve requirements as needed. Furthermore, in order to maintain national surge capability, the NMAC may retain available resources within a Geographic Area, over and above the established Geographic Area drawdown level.

## SCOPE OF OPERATION

### GENERAL

#### **Durango Dispatch Area Response Plans**

Operating procedures and references to mutual aid agreements for participating agencies within the Durango Dispatch Area are identified in the County Annual Operating Plans and this mobilization Guide.

#### **Response to Incidents Other than Wildland Fires**

The Durango Dispatch Center (DRC), through area and national logistical coordination system, is capable of supporting non-fire incidents provided there are agreements or MOUs in place.

#### **National Response Framework (NRF) (added)**

RMC is the contact / coordination point for support to the National Response Framework (NRF).

#### **Mutual Aid Agreements**

Mutual aid agreements have the primary purpose of providing Initial Attack (IA) and short term logistical support between adjoining units and dispatch centers.

Initial Attack incidents are those that are controlled by the IA forces without need for major reinforcements within a reasonable time.

Rocky Mountain Area units and dispatch centers have the authority to utilize the resources of adjoining units and centers within the RMA as stated in the RMA Neighborhood Ordering Procedures RMG 21.2.

Rocky Mountain Area units and dispatch centers have the authority to utilize the Initial Attack resources of adjoining units and centers across adjacent geographic area boundaries. Mobilization will be within the legal authority of existing formalized parent agreements.

Local formal agreements and MOU's are not necessary; however, cooperating units and centers must specifically identify operating procedures in local operating plans. Prior to the mobilization of IA resources, it is agreed that:

- An official resource request will be processed through dispatch channels for IA resources remaining on the incident beyond IA.
- No IA resource responding across geographic boundaries will be mobilized further than that adjoining center boundary.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DURANGO DISPATCH CENTER**

Durango Dispatch Center (DRC) shall provide logistical support to all units within their area of influence. DRC will coordinate movement of all initial attack and support resources within and across jurisdictional boundaries.

The Dispatch Center Manager has delegated authority from Federal and State Land Management Agencies as identified by signatories of the Durango Interagency Mobilization Guide. The delegated authority is outlined throughout this guide and establishes policies and procedures for the mobilization of personnel, equipment, supplies and aircraft for incident emergencies, pre-suppression and non-emergency incidents.

1. Provides a focal point for information concerning overall incident situations' within the DRC Area including but not limited to, fire danger, fire weather, current or projected activity, and resource status and availability.
2. Determines the amount and location of available resources; anticipates and communicates initial needs and priorities for sharing available resources.
3. Coordinates the movement of suppression and pre-suppression personnel, equipment, aircraft and supplies from one geographic location to another within the zone.
4. Coordinates with the PLC Fire Duty Officer or MAC coordinator to determine priorities for resources in multiple fire situations. (See Fire Duty Officer Roles and Responsibilities)
5. Coordinates rosters, schedules, rotations and mobilization of local, RMA and National resources.
6. Keeps DRCG members, unit FMO's, and RMC informed of existing and projected critical fire situations and resource shortages.
7. Determines the need to preposition suppression resources at the most strategic locations and initiates the movement of the resource order process in conjunction with DRCG and local FMO's
8. Assures the dispatch organization is functioning by acceptable dispatch standards and is effectively and efficiently providing support to ground forces.
9. Maintains accurate statistical records and required databases concerning incident related activities.
10. Serves as information and technical advisor to DRCG at their meetings.
11. Provides leadership and support in local training programs.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF DURANGO DISPATCH AREA AGENCIES/UNITS**

**(In conjunction with agency manuals and directives)**

1. Responsible for all fire activity within their respective protection boundaries.
2. Responsible for preparedness in order to meet daily anticipated fire suppression requirements.
3. Responsible for informing DRC of all intelligence regarding resources, weather and incident information. This includes anticipated critical fire situations or fire activity that may exhaust unit response capabilities.
4. Responsible for continuous communications about current and planned events.
5. Responsible for administrative details including training, fiscal, contracting, discipline, housing, time keeping, equipment, supplies and any project work for shared resources based on the unit.
6. Determine needs for pre-positioning of forces or deviations from approved and published staffing levels and take appropriate action; this includes obtaining severity authorization approval and initiating resource order requests through appropriate dispatch channels.
7. Responsible for the active support of incident suppression by making qualified personnel available for fire suppression activities.
8. Responsible for providing the training and support to fire suppression personnel to assure safe, efficient and effective suppression activities.
9. Responsible for providing a Fire Duty Officer.

### **MOBILIZATION / DEMOBILIZATION - POLICY**

**Frequency Management** Federal and State Land Management Agencies agree to the sharing of specific radio frequencies that are authorized / licensed for each agency. Shared frequencies are to provide efficient, cost effective radio/communication support in protecting life and property. The sharing of frequencies is under the authority of the NTIA Regulations Manual, Sections 7.3.1, 7.3.4 and 7.5.1 and the FCC Rules and Regulations, Part 90, Sections 90.405 and 90.407. Local dispatch and management procedures between the agencies will be utilized to provide orderly control and frequency management. The resource order form will serve as written authorization for sharing frequencies.

**Mobilization/ Demobilization** The Durango Interagency Dispatch Center will coordinate the movement of all resources from participating agencies within the Durango Coordinating Group jurisdictional boundaries. Resources mobilized will be ordered through established ordering channels.

Units responding to mobilization requests are responsible for ensuring the resources dispatched meet the criteria specified in this guide and/or the National Wildfire Coordinating Group's Wildland Prescribed Fire Qualification System Guide (PMS 310-1).

### **WORK/REST, LENGTH OF ASSIGNMENT, AND DAYS OFF**

**(See the Incident Business Management Handbook and the National Mobilization Guide for current direction)**

### **INCIDENT OPERATIONS DRIVING**

**(See the Incident Business Management Handbook and the National Mobilization Guide for current direction)**



## 1 INITIAL ATTACK DEFINITIONS

2 A planned response to a wildfire given the wildfire's potential fire behavior. The objective of initial attack is  
3 to stop the fire and put it out in a manner consistent with firefighter and public safety and values to be  
4 protected. (*Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology (November 2008)*)

5 All fire management, assigned and incoming resources will be made aware of the Incident Command  
6 leadership for the duration of the incident.  
7

8 See County Operating Plans for additional specific initial attack direction within county jurisdictions.

9 Dispatching of National and/or Area initial attack resources within and across the defined Rocky Mountain  
10 Area boundaries shall comply with the following:

- 11 1. Rocky Mountain Area units and dispatch centers have the authority to utilize the resources of all  
12 RMA units and centers as stated in the Rocky Mountain Area-Wide and Neighborhood Ordering  
13 Procedures. (See Chapter 20 for specific details)
  - 14 2. Rocky Mountain Area units and dispatch centers have the authority to utilize resources of adjoining  
15 units and centers across adjacent geographic area boundaries. (See Chapter 40 for specific details)
  - 16 3. Mobilization will be within the legal authority of existing formalized parent agreements. Local formal  
17 agreements and MOU's are not necessary.
  - 18 4. Initial attack aircraft such as air tankers, helicopters, lead planes, smokejumper aircraft, etc., are  
19 considered resources that can be dispatched and arrive on scene within one hour of the IA request.
  - 20 5. Initial attack ground resources are considered resources that can be dispatched and arrive on scene  
21 within three hours of the IA request.
  - 22 6. Dispatch centers must make notification of national and area resource commitment.
  - 23 7. At such time as it becomes evident that the incident will not be confined, contained or controlled  
24 during IA, the initial attack resources shall be formally requested, as necessary, through established  
25 dispatch channels.
- 26 When the RMA reaches Preparedness Level III, the Area Fire Coordinator and the RMCG Fire Duty  
27 Officer will determine the need for prioritization of available National and Area resources. RMC has the  
28 authority to withdraw Area-wide, Neighborhood Ordering within the RMA and/or IA resources movement  
29 across geographic boundaries as necessary.

30

## RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

DRC will initiate/generate resource orders for DRC area units for the incidents (prescribed fire, wildland fire, non-fire, etc). All resources mobilized beyond IA at their local area level will adhere to NWCG Physical Fitness Standards.

### Last Character Agency

A	Bureau of Indian Affairs	Q	Dept. of Defense
AO	BIA Area Offices	R	Fish & Wildlife Service
C	Coordination/Dispatch Centers	RO	USFS Regional Office
D	BLM Field Offices	S	State Agencies
F	USDA Forest Service SO		BLM State Offices
G	General Services Administration	T	Tribe
I	Private	V	Federal Aviation Administration
K	Geographic Area Caches	W	National Weather Service
L	Bureau of Reclamation	P	National Park Service
M	Federal Emergency Mgmt Agency	Z	Office of Aircraft Services

C. Up to six digits for the incident number (alpha/numeric) this number will be the DRC Incident Action Number (IAR). This number will correspond to the incident number assigned by WildCAD.

D. Request types and each resource will have a unique request number from one of the following categories:

A = Aircraft      O = Overhead      C = Crews  
E = Equipment    S = Supplies      IA = Initial Attack

DRC area three letter pre-assigned unit identifier

SUA	Southern Ute (BIA)	UMA	Ute Mountain (BIA)
SJF	San Juan National Forest (USFS)	SJD	Tres Rios Field Office (BLM)
MVP	Mesa Verde National Park (NPS)	SJX	San Juan County
LPX	La Plata County	HIX	Hinsdale County
MNX	Montezuma County	AUX	Archuleta County
DLX	Dolores County	DRS	Durango District (CSFS)

## NATIONAL AND AREA RESOURCES

National/area resources are those fire suppression resources whose primary duties are for the national and area support of fire incidents.

### National

National Interagency Wildland Fire Management Team	
Area Command Teams	National Contract Lead planes
Type 1 & NIMO Incident Management Teams	National Contract Infrared Aircraft
Type 1 Buying Teams	Smokeyjumper Aircraft
Type 1 Interagency Hotshot Crews	National Contract Type 1 & 2 Helicopters
Smoke Jumpers	National Interagency Caches
National Contract Mobile Food Service Units	Smoke Jumper Aircraft
National Contract Mobile Shower Facilities	Large Transport Aircraft
National Incident Radio Support Cache Communication	MAFFS
National Interagency Support Cache (NISC) System	National Contract Air Tankers
Fire Remote Automated Weather Systems (FRWS)	National Aerial Supervision Module

### Area

Type 2 Incident Management Teams	Cache Vans
Type 2 Buying Teams	Type 3 Exclusive Use Helicopters
Exclusive Use SEATS	Type 2 & Type 2 IA Crews
Wildfire Use Modules	

## **NOTIFICATION OF COMMITMENT OF NATIONAL RESOURCES**

DRC will notify RMACC by phone within **fifteen (15) minutes** of commitment when National and Area Resources:

A. Are committed internally to an incident or no longer available for dispatch.

B. Are available again.

C. Have changed locations or been reassigned within the zone.

D. When 50% of the Smokejumpers at home bases are dispatched.

## **UNABLE TO FILL (UTF) PROCEDURE**

A 48 hour "Unable to Fill" Policy exists nationally. NICC will return requests to the ordering GACC with a "UTF" no more than 48 hours after receipt, unless notified the order can be filled. NICC will not accept or process any request previously UTF'd unless a new request number is assigned.

**STANDARD CUBES, WEIGHT AND GEAR POLICY** (excluding smoke jumpers, rappellers and helicopter managers). All personnel dispatched off their unit must conform to the following limitations:

a. One frameless, soft pack not to exceed 45 pounds.

b. Web gear or briefcase (not both) not to exceed 20 pounds.

c. Maximum allowable crew weight, including equipment is 5300 pounds.

d. All personnel baggage weights must be displayed separately from individual weights on flight manifests.

e. Pre-identified Type 1 Incident Management Team members are authorized additional weight not to exceed 300 pounds of equipment per team. The IC must designate in advance which team members are authorized additional weight and make this a matter of record.

This is due to aircraft weight-balance requirements that will be adhered to when planning for mobilization/demobilization.

## **STRIKE TEAMS: ENGINES**

Only orders for Single Engines will be processed through dispatch channels. Strike Teams and Task Forces will be formed at the local level. When strike teams are ordered, the local dispatch office will be responsible for assigning individual "E" request numbers to each of the five engines making up the team. Dispatch will verify if a Strike Team Leader (STEN) is needed and if so assign an "O" request number.

RMA engines will be staffed with three (3) engine people, rather than the NWCG standard of two (2). Engines ordered from outside the RMA will be ordered with three (3) personnel for type 3, 4, 5, AND 6 engines unless the incident specifically requests other staffing.

## **WILDLAND FIRE WEATHER FORECASTS**

Durango Dispatch will ensure wildland fire weather forecasts are communicated in a timely manner to firefighters via radio.

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